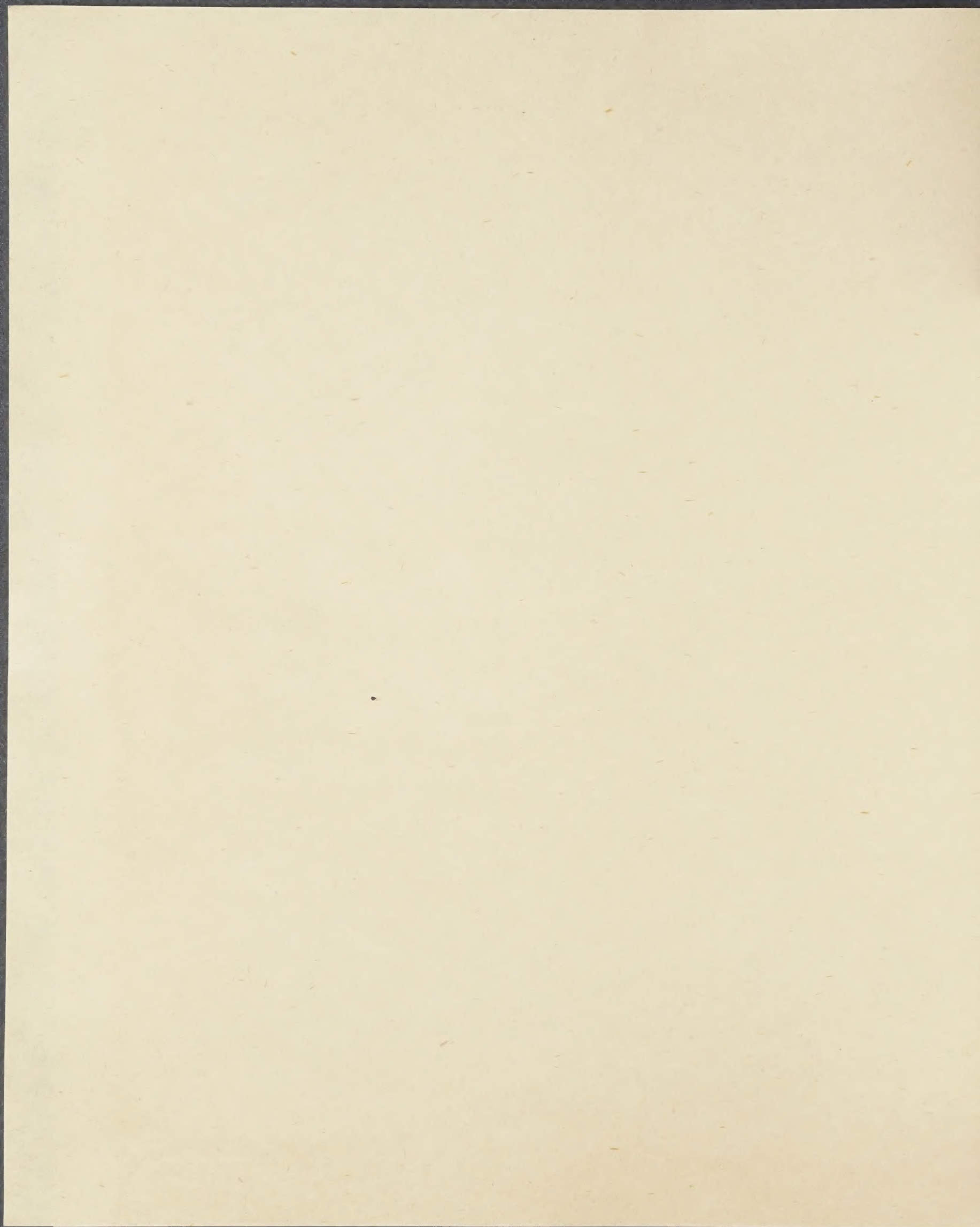


Cameron, Irving Hebard

July 1915-May 1916
(37)



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TELEPHONE: 766 GERRARD (10 LINES.)
TELEGRAMS: "GRANOTEL, WESTRAN, LONDON."

Arrived 5. 8. 15
— forwarding —

GRAND HOTEL

LONDON

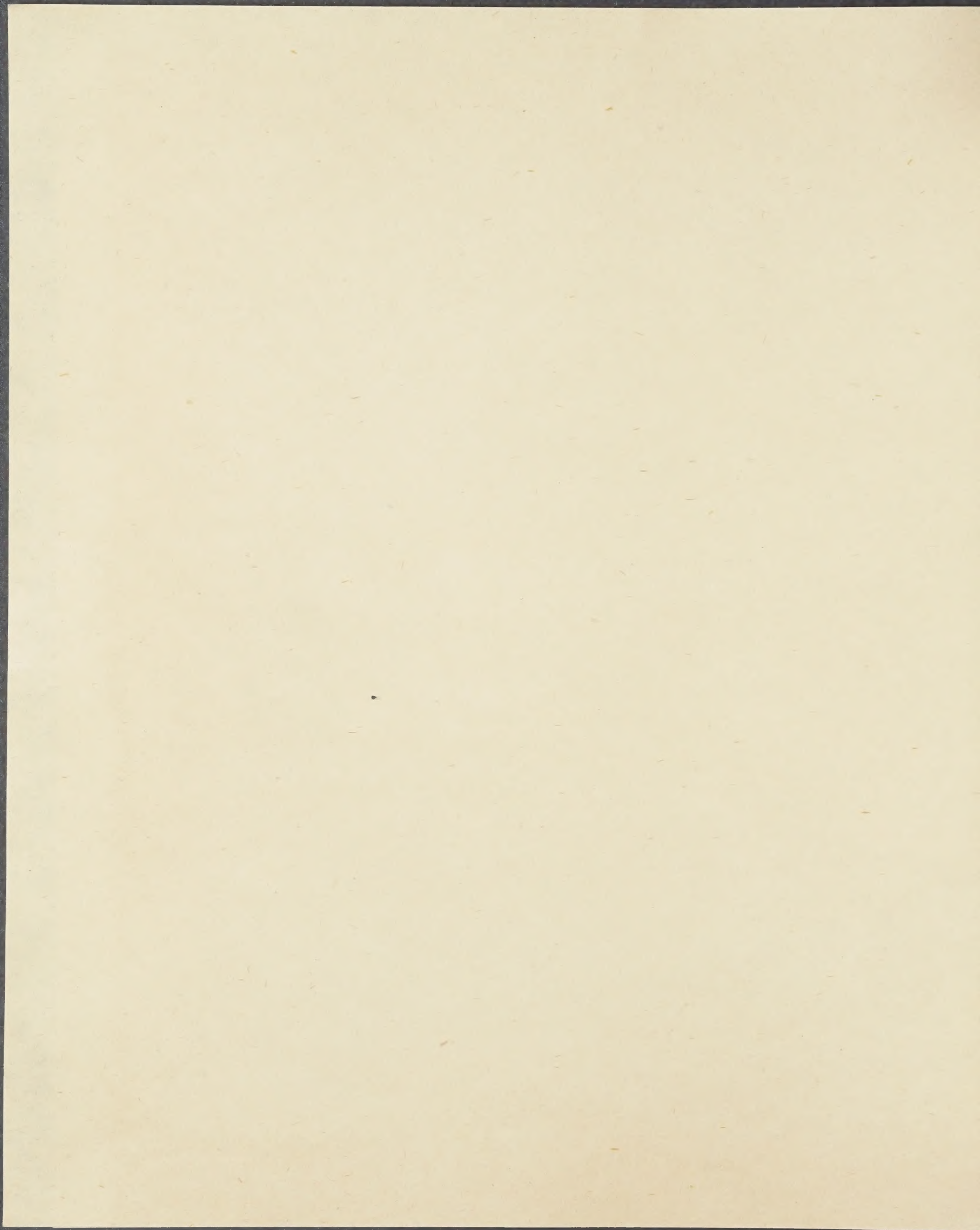
W.C.

22nd July 1915

Dear Mr President

I am only today
in receipt of your letter of the
19th ultimo which has been
knocked around from pillar to
post for some time owing
to the fact that I am not at
King George's Hospital, as was
expected, and when the letter
was delivered there after a vain

Search



Report was imperfect, and am at a loss to
understand why it should have been so, for
I noted in the Secretary's Office with a copy of
the last Calendar before me to make sure that
no names were omitted, and sent the report
in two parts, under separate covers, with the
request that they should be delivered by hand.
Miss Jamieson was not in the Office at the
time, and I fix the fact in memory by
recollecting that I wrote it at her desk.
I wonder if only one of the envelopes has
been forwarded. However, the intention was
to make no alterations other than additions
with the exception of the name of H. W. Wright
at the Children's Hospital who had gone over to
the Old Country to take a course in Ophthalmology
with a view to confining his attention to
that. I am under the impression that Professor
Clarence Starr asked to have Dr. Bruce Robertson's
name substituted for Dr. H. W. Wright; but Dr. Bruce
Robertson

Search for me they sent it on
to St. George's Hospital, and
they somewhere else, and so on
until I got to the Red Cross
Office in Pall Mall and
ultimately to me here. Of
course all the suggestions were
made in good faith and with
the intention of being helpful
but if the letter had been returned
at once to the General Post Office
they would have sent it to
the Royal Society Club with
less than a day's delay.
I am sorry to learn that my
Report

it at once when I saw him and Cabled out to
Canada recommending, as he told me, that I should
be appointed Lieut. Col. and assigned to duty at Cliveden.
A fortnight transpired, however, and no notice was
taken of it, and so when I heard that Sir Robert
Borden was coming to Town I wrote soliciting
his intervention, and so luck would have it Dr
Pyne arrived and, shortly after, the Minister of
Militia to whom both he and Sir Robert spoke,
and I understand the appointment was made
but I have not been notified or assigned, and am
under the impression that the Minister of Education
has taken me under his wing, and ^{perhaps} my duty may
be in connexion with the Ontario Hospital. I
have not liked to bother the General (Jones) about
the matter and so remain in ignorance, keeping
my soul in what patience I can command.

Strange to say there is very little ^{Surgical} work of a
Major kind to be done here. A well trained House
Surgeon would do it most efficiently, if he had
somebody of Experience to tell him what to do.
My own immediate University Service at the T.E.H.
is too good for the job, 't is a pity it is like breaking
a

GRAND HOTEL

LONDON

W.C.

TELEPHONE: 766 GERRARD (10 LINES)
TELEGRAMS: "GRANOTEL, WESTRAN, LONDON."

Robertson is over here just now
at Grosvenor Park with his
father-in-law and Mr. H. G. Wells.
I think the list of applicants
is all right in the case of Mr.
Wells and Mr. H. G. Wells
head but Mr. Robertson, who
has been his business partner,
changes and leaves are over
here too. I don't remember
at the moment that there
were any other names but
I shall be able to correct me
if I am wrong. Among the
demonstrators: Robert Roberts, Wilson
are over here. In view of the fact
that Dr. Cleland occupied a higher
post in the department of Hygiene
-logy, which is a collateral subject
it is a question if he ought not to
be given a higher designation.
Private.
As far as Dr. R. in London is
concerned I have practically done
nothing but look over his papers,
and visit proposed sites for
the Ontario Government Hospital,
the latter in conjunction with
the Minister of Education.
I am much obliged to you
for your kind letter to General
Carleton Jones who acted upon
it

TELEPHONE: 766 GERRARD (10 LINES.)
TELEGRAMS: "GRANOTEL, WESTRAN, LONDON."

GRAND HOTEL
LONDON

W.C.

a fly upon a wheel. But the
kind of singing is entirely new
to most of us doing it. It
is the sensation of a sensation
and only those who have known
the penitential era have been
dean anything like it, and then
never on such a scale. Experience
in the Guinea would be useful
now — South Africa would help.
We have relaxed into varying
all along the line, and there
has been a hole-and-a-half of in-
-necessary and doubtless singing
because now unqualified for the
work

work both in experience and
in judgment have had it in
hand. The Specialist (in fact almost
told me that he had found it
necessary, being here from the
first, to do only 12 or 14 proctoid
operations, but he had known men
who had never done one before do
50, 60 or 100 in the same time;
and the same experience is re-
peated all along the line. Tell
it not in Gath; whisper it not
in the Streets of Askelon! The
case of the Secandi is inevitable!
As you are doubtless aware, I
am a very Conservative Antiochian
Singer and I think that
any of my Staff if they remember
my

my teaching which is really Lister's - would not be open
to either surprise or condemnation in this respect.
Indeed Stanley Ryerson - who has been doing very
good X-Ray work - which was all he could get to do at
the Hospital to which he was assigned told me that
he had succeeded in saving by his reports a number
of patients from unnecessary operations at the hands
of too zealous operators. Of the medical side I know
nothing; but, no doubt, Rudolf has reported on that to
you already. I am sorry to learn that Dr. Gordon has
been obliged to return home with symptoms of duodenal
ulcer or something of that kind. It is reported from
France that the University's very complete scientific
outfit has caused much amusement, but Professors
MacKenzie and Brodie have set up their apparatus
in the Women's Medical College in Hunter St., Brompton
Square here, and so will be able not only to do very
excellent work but to give a good account of them-
selves as well. It is the fixed policy of the B.W.O. to get
the sick and wounded out of France as speedily as
possible and so the bulk of the work will be done on
English soil. The McGill unit is over in France but doing
nothing yet, I am told, and the Harvard unit went over
last Saturday to help them do it! When Cosmos will
give out of chaos a prophet alone can say.

With kind regards and many thanks
Your faithful and obedient servant
J.H. Cropper

P. L.

I found the post at King
George's Hospital which had
been offered to me filled and
the flap completed when I
arrived but I was too much
disappointed and annoyed
to ask why. My friend Mr.
Edmund Owen who wrote to
me on the subject had an
apoplexy on the street a
week ago yesterday and was
carried into Charing Cross Hospital
where he still lies unconscious.
I am afraid it is hopeless.

October 10th, 1915

My dear Professor Cameron:

Pardon me for not having written to you before, but really my time has been more occupied than I thought it would be, and for the past fortnight I have been rather under the weather, though now I am more like my old self.

Yesterday I gave the formal address to the students, though our work has been going on for some time. The enrollment of new students has fallen off this year, both in the natural and in the medical departments, particularly in the medical department and somewhat in the natural. Medicine is about as large as last year, and you perhaps know that the War Office is sending back the students of the last two years in medicine. It is not very many in the medical department of trained doctors. It will be difficult enough for us to get our work done in medicine, but doubtless those who have returned will all be able to do a little more than usual.

You may have seen Professor Woodie and J. J. Mackenzie in London during the summer, where they were at work. We expect them to return soon.

I infer from some notices in the paper that you are to be put in charge of the new Ontario Hospital. I remember that before you left you said that there was a likelihood of this, and I hope that this expectation will be realised.

Dr. Bingham as senior of the surgical staff of those who are left is looking after the surgery at present. I

assume that you expect to be away all winter, and that if you take charge of the Ontario Hospital we shall not have you back with us really until after the end of the war.

I have to thank you for your later letter with the appointments. They have now all gone through.

Yesterday I received a long letter from Professor Primrose outlining what they have been doing at Shorncliffe. By this time, unless they are in France, they will have charge of some 550 beds, and apparently it was on the whole to their advantage to remain in England rather than go to France. The sacrifice of time which you and many other surgeons are making for the sake of the nation is very great, and we can only regret that your services have not been called upon more fully, but on the other hand the situation is so dependant upon the policy of the War Office in the conduct of the campaign that it is a part of military discipline and duty to stand and wait ready for emergencies.

I hope that if you have time you will occasionally send me a letter as to how things are going with you, and I shall try to get you any information that may be of interest to you about our proceedings here. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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May 2nd, 1916

Lieutenant-Colonel T. B. Cameron,
Ontario Hospital,
Orpington, Kent.

Dear Colonel Cameron:

On a request from Dr. Pyne who received a cable from you I asked the Minister of Militia to have General Carson recall you for work in the University during the coming Summer Session. I have, however, received a letter from the Minister of Militia enclosing a cable from General Carson which runs as follows:

"Your cable April eleventh Lt.-Colonel T. B. Cameron states under agreement with Ontario Government to see Ontario Military Hospital in satisfactory running condition. He desires remain here until this completed. Please cable if his services will still be required."

In these circumstances I have again written to Ottawa asking the Militia authorities to do nothing further in the matter until I hear from you. I do not understand the condition of affairs for I thought from Dr. Pyne that the matter was urgent. We can arrange to have the work of the Summer Session done without you, but in order to meet what we thought were your own wishes we made the other arrangements.

I should be glad to know from you definitely what

you desire us to do, though now it is doubtful whether we could send in a request for a recall until the autumn inasmuch as all arrangements will have been made by this time for the conduct of the work during the summer.

I hope that your health is better and that the arrival of Dr. Shenstone will have given you some relief. With kind regards,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Col. H. H. H.

S.D. M.S. 86 Strand WC